

SENATE BILL 1329

By Henry

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 9, relative to the appropriations for an indefinite period of time.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 9-9-103 is hereby amended by adding the following sentence at the end of the section:

There is hereby appropriated to the state funding board on a continuing basis a sum sufficient for payment of debt service (principal, interest and premium, if any) on outstanding bonds and other debt obligations (including notes), amounts due on contracts or agreements authorized under this chapter, and necessary related expenses.

SECTION 2. The following is added as a new section 9-4-5107:

(a) By authorizing the issuance of debt that is not a liability of the state and the payment of debt service thereon by the state school bond authority in title 49, by the local development authority in title 4, by the housing development agency in title 13, and by the state veterans' homes board in title 58, the General Assembly intended that such authorizations constitute:

(1) with respect to each debt issuer listed above, a direct and continuing appropriation to that debt issuer of its earnings, revenues or other assets for expenditures authorized by or pursuant to the respective enabling legislation and the authority to expend those funds in accordance with or pursuant to such legislation; and

(2) with respect to any public higher education entity whose contracts or agreements with the state school bond authority support the payment of such debt issuer's debt service, a direct and continuing appropriation to that entity of its earnings, revenues or other assets pledged or governed by such contracts or agreements and the authority to expend those funds in accordance with or pursuant to the respective contracts or agreements.

(b) It is further the intent of the General Assembly that the state funding board is authorized to make debt service payments on outstanding bonds and other debt obligations (including notes) as provided in Section 9-9-103 and make payments due under agreements authorized under Section 9-9-202 from any funds held in the state treasury not otherwise legally restricted, independent of an appropriation bill as contemplated by this chapter.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end, the provision of this act are declared severable.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.